

UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

VI, No. 2

September - October 1978

OCCUPANTS, POSSIBLE ABDUCTION, RADAR TRACKINGS TOP INGREDIENTS IN SIGHTING REPORTS

Occupants; a possible abduction; UFOs that were tracked on radar, caused electro-magnetic (E-M) and physiological effects; objects that illuminated witnesses, homes, an automobile, a driveway, a road, and clouds; a craft that swooped down on a car, causing the driver to lose control and strike a utility pole; another that played "tag" with an airplane; a witness who hit a UFO with a rock; a UFO that executed a "hairpin turn" at great speed; an object that hovered over a lake, sucking up the water; another that caused a car to glow; a UFO that paced an automobile; objects that landed and took off, caused animal reactions, left behind physical evidence, emitted sounds and an odor and were photographed and filmed; a UFO that hovered over a power line; an object estimated to be the size of three 747 jets; and objects that frightened witnesses were characteristics of sighting reports from at least a dozen states and four foreign countries during the January-June time period. Witnesses included the pilot, crew, and passengers of an aircraft and radar and military personnel.

Witnesses in Connecticut observed the strange objects.

Melissa Johnson, 10, observed a UFO that "oddly illuminated" the driveway outside her bedroom window in Montville at about 11 p.m., April 6. She called her mother, Mrs. Gladys Johnson.

"It was round and had lights," Mrs. Johnson declared. "It hovered for a few seconds and moved away."

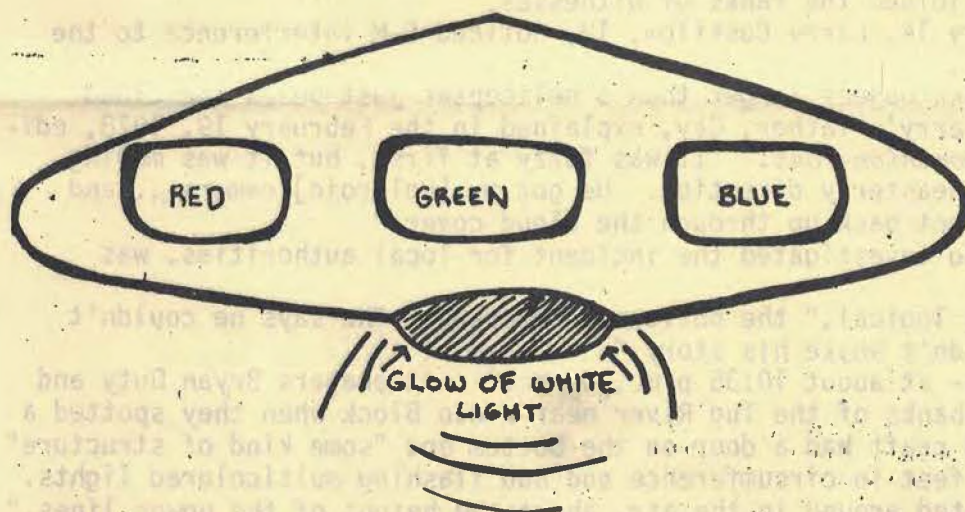
The UFO was "10 to 12 feet long with small lights around the circumference and a larger one in the center."

Meanwhile, "the lights on the second floor of the Johnson home went off while the downstairs lights remained on. The fuses had been replaced a few days earlier. The family's dog also began to growl and 'its hair stood up on its back.'"

(Sources: Norwich, Conn., *Bulletin*, April 8, 1978, and New London, Conn., *Day*, April 11, 1978).

A week later -- on the evening of April 13 -- six unidentified children and a woman observed a "very large" UFO with "red, white and yellow lights" at an altitude of less than 100 feet over Enfield. The UFO "passed overhead," then "returned and hovered a few feet above a power line," according to the Manchester, Conn., *Journal Inquirer*, April 15, 1978.

The UFO was flashing its lights. It was "square on the top and round on the bottom." As it hovered over the power line, it "extended three or four metal legs from its underside." One of the witnesses threw a rock at the object, "which made a 'ping' sound on impact."



UFO Sketch, Auburn, N.Y., April 27, 1978

(Courtesy: Citizen)

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The witnesses experienced a "weird" sensation, akin "to someone's foot falling asleep." At one time, the UFO "dropped what appeared to be a glowing fireball from its underside." After about 10 minutes, the object "sped straight upward and appeared to be on a collision course with a small airplane flying overhead."

At about 8:20 p.m., April 27, two girls (who desire anonymity) observed an oval UFO "with little notches at the top and bottom" and carrying red, blue, green and white lights fly from north to south over Auburn, N.Y. (See sketch, p. 1).

"The colors of red, green and blue were changing....," one of the witnesses stated in the Auburn

Citizen, April 28, 1978. "It looked like the colors were rotating on the object. At the bottom was a glow of white."

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Smith had just left the home of relatives -- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Witmer -- near Strinestown, Pa., on the evening of April 2 when they saw a "big, round object" at an altitude of about 100 feet directly in front of their car. The UFO had "three red lights at the back" and emitted a "pulsating sound."

Smith slammed on the brakes and put the automobile into reverse. As he did so, "the craft tilted toward them," and "a bright light from the top... beamed down on the car."

"We thought it was coming right at us," Mrs. Smith related in the York, Pa., *Dispatch*, April 3, 1978.

Smith backed onto the Witmer property and ran inside the house, alerting their uncle and aunt, who saw the object heading toward town. Mrs. Smith said it "had wires, like antennae, projecting from the top, and there were small wheels on the underside." As the UFO ascended and moved away, "the noise got louder."

At approximately 7:30 p.m., January 27, Cheryl DeSantis heard a dog barking in Vineland, N.J., and went to investigate. She observed "a red and white blinking light" hovering above some trees about a quarter of a mile away, according to the January 30, 1978, edition of the Vineland *Times Journal*.

About five minutes later, "a red ball came up from behind the trees very slowly" and passed about five feet from the first object. It headed north, descending, "passing within a few feet of rooftops" and casting light upon the homes. Meanwhile, the first object began moving.

Another witness -- Murray Benson -- also reportedly "observed the phenomenon."

Residents of West Virginia joined the ranks of witnesses.

At about 2:30 p.m., February 14, Larry Costilow, 12, noticed E-M interference to the family television set near Irona.

"He glanced up and saw a dark object larger than a helicopter just below the cloud ceiling, at about 3,000 feet," Larry's father, Gay, explained in the February 19, 1978, edition of the Morgantown, W.Va., *Dominion-Post*. "It was fuzzy at first, but it was moving downward and traveling in a southeasterly direction. He got my [Polaroid] camera... and snapped two pictures before it went back up through the cloud cover."

Deputy William McGinnis, who investigated the incident for local authorities, was impressed.

"Everything the boy said is logical," the policeman remarked. "He says he couldn't identify the object, and we couldn't shake his story."

Exactly four months later -- at about 10:35 p.m., June 14 -- teenagers Bryan Duty and John Wright were fishing on the banks of the Tug River near Winco Block when they spotted a UFO. The gold and silver, round craft had a door on the bottom and "some kind of structure" on top. It was an estimated 60 feet in circumference and had flashing multicolored lights.

The mysterious object "floated around in the air, about the height of the power lines," and, at one point, was only around 40 feet from the observers. It emitted two light beams onto the boys.

"We couldn't move," Wright remarked in the June 17, 1978, edition of the Williamson, W.Va., *News*. "We laid down and watched, but still could not move. My head felt like it going in and out."

Duty felt like "somebody was behind us and whispering. You couldn't understand what they were saying, but you could hear."

Then the frightened witnesses apparently became temporarily disoriented and were not fully aware of their surroundings until they arrived at Duty's home.

"I just remember going in the door of my home," Bryan stated. "I was scared stiff."

John added that, in retrospect, he had "a vague impression of sitting in a chair on the spaceship." Bryan had a dim recollection of "seeing a tall person or thing that looked like blackened cheese" in concert with "a terrible smell." Both boys said "they heard a rush of air just before the spaceship appeared on the scene."

North Carolina was the scene of two sighting incidents.

It was around midnight, March 1. Two truck drivers (who requested anonymity) were nearing Boone when they observed a UFO with "a round bottom, extended sides and a top that looked like a church steeple" and "on the right side of the roadway," according to the March 6, 1978, edition of the Boone *Watauga Democrat*. The frightened men sped from the scene.

Meanwhile, a woman in Wilkes County said she saw the same or a similar object that cut off "half the power in her home." Other area sightings were also reported.



UFO Photo by Steve Molnar, Fayetteville, N.C., March 22, 1978

(Courtesy: Times)

At 10:30 p.m., March 22, Steve Molnar, a soldier, had just left a theater in Fayetteville, where he "was practicing taking pictures" with his camera, when he observed a UFO. (See photo, left).

"The thing had five sides," the Ft. Bragg resident remarked in the April 3, 1978, edition of the Fayetteville *Times*. "There were red lights in a circle. It stopped for four or five seconds and hung in the air. Then it took off over the barracks. It didn't seem like a balloon. It was more the shape of a pizza or a discus."

Molnar added that a trooper friend also "reported seeing something strange while on sentry duty that night."

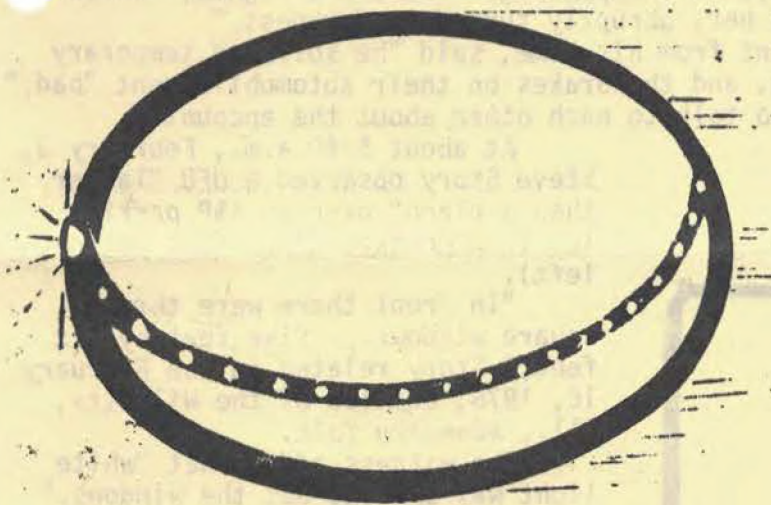
The state of Florida was host to the flying objects.

Vicki Bryant and Melody Kennedy were driving in Sanford at 9:15 p.m., March 31, when they observed an oblong-shaped object "about the size of a football field," stated the Sanford *Herald*, April 7, 1978. (See sketch, left). The UFO was encircled with white lights, and "one big blinking light" was seen at the front.

According to the women, the alien craft hovered over a cemetery for 3-4 minutes. Mrs. Bryant stopped at her home to tell her husband about the sighting, but, when they returned to the site, the object had disappeared.

Other residents, including Elaine Chapman, also saw the UFO.

On the evening of May 14, residents of Ocala, Fla., reported seeing "colored lights flashing in the night sky," stated the Van Nuys, Calif., *Valley News*, May 21, 1978.



UFO Sketch, Sanford, Fla., March 31, 1978

(Courtesy: Herald)

At the nearby U.S. Navy Pinecastle Electronic Warfare Range, Duty Officer Robert Clark awakened his radar operator, Timothy Collins. Both men observed "a horizontal line of three lights -- red, green, and white -- blinking in sequence." They were about four miles away, hovering at approximately 1,500 feet.

Suddenly, Collins yelled that his radar screen showed "a strangely shaped blip." The lights hovered and blinked for half an hour while "several enlisted men at the base climbed an observation tower to watch." Then "Collins readied for automatic tracking in case the lights moved, but when he locked the sophisticated tracking gear on the object, it disappeared.

Minutes later, the lights returned -- from a different angle and moving very slowly. They again disappeared as "Collins locked in on the blip."

Five minutes later, a UFO "appeared on the radar screen... some 15 miles north traveling at 570 m.p.h." The object "performed a hairpin turn at speeds much greater than 570 m.p.h., headed... back toward the tracking station, stopped dead, and disappeared."

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Knapp were driving near Fort Pierce, Fla., on the evening of May 18 when their car radio "began picking up a lot of static." They saw a large, round object that "glowed brightly and bobbed up and down in the sky." At one point, it approached the witnesses' automobile "and then up at an angle, then back down again."

"It was a bright circle, putting lights on the clouds, coming right at us," Mrs. Knapp stated in the Okeechobee, Fla., *News*, May 25, 1978.

On the evening of March 18, Charles E. Green observed a "big ball of light" that "swooped down" and paced his car near Ruston, La. The witness sped away, but lost control of the vehicle and struck a utility pole. He was treated at Lincoln General Hospital and released, the Ruston *Daily Reader*, March 20, 1978, reported.

An unidentified woman backed out of her garage and started to work in southern Kenton County, Ohio, at 5:50 a.m., January 21. Her husband watched as she drove away. Then her car emitted a "meep, meep" sound that continued for 3-4 miles.

Twenty-four hours later, the woman again started for work.

"I got to about the same place on the road at just about the same time when I saw this thing right over top of me..." she explained in the Cincinnati, Ohio, *Post & Times Star*, February 14, 1978. "At first it was a big red something. And it came in front of me. That's when I started hearing the noise again. It was the same sound."

The egg-shaped UFO was approximately 200 feet away.

"It was orangish-yellow on top, with a purple or steel-gray band around the middle and kind of a blue-green color on the bottom," the witness added.

The woman said: "I would drive along a short way, then stop. It would stop with me each time." She made a right turn, and the object disappeared. The UFO's lights, "which had brightened up the country road all around her, abruptly turned to darkness."

The husband, who also watched the incident from his home, said "he suffered temporary impotency" for 10 days following the sighting, and the brakes on their automobile went "bad." The couple also reported a great reluctance to talk to each other about the encounter.

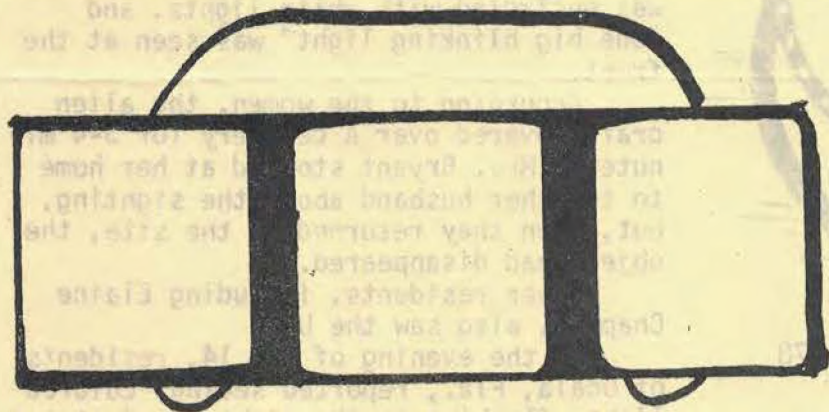
At about 5:40 a.m., February 3, Steve Story observed a UFO "larger than a plane" over an A&P parking lot in Winnetka, Ill. (See sketch, left).

"In front there were three square windows... five feet by six feet," Story related in the February 16, 1978, edition of the Wilmette, Ill., *Winnetka Talk*.

The witness added that "white light was shining out the windows."

"The front was square and then became oval towards the rear," Story continued. "It came almost directly overhead about 500 yards high... The three lights went out and two red ones from underneath came on. They were circular... one on each side of the craft."

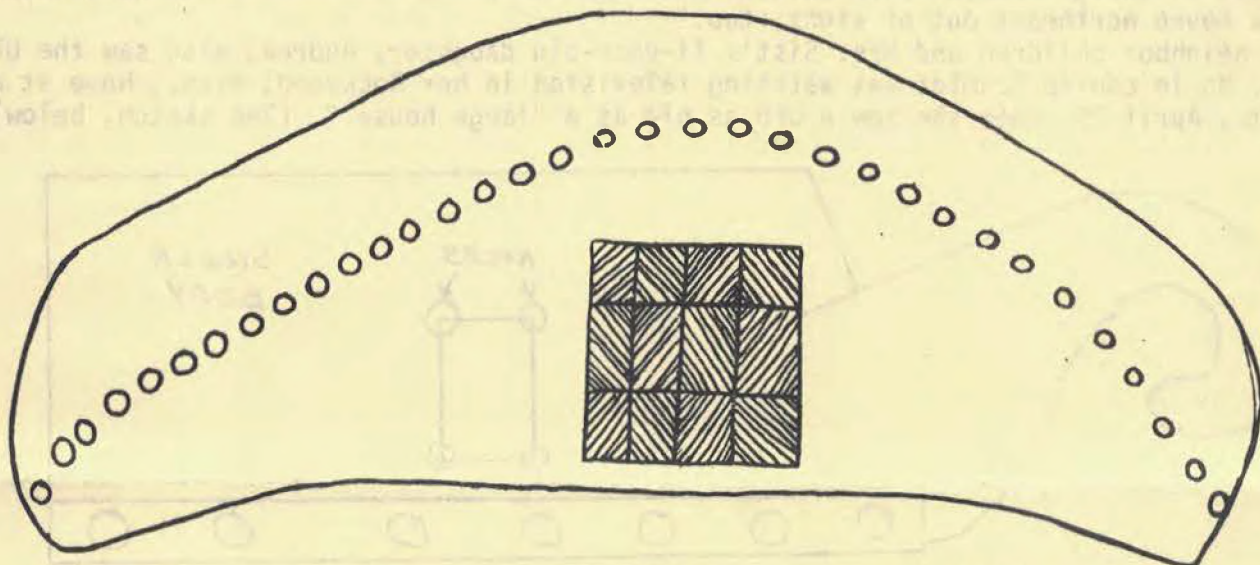
Observers in Michigan were among the witnesses.



Sketch of UFO Seen by Steve Story, Winnetka, Ill.,
February 3, 1978

(Courtesy: Winnetka Talk)

Mike Sixbey observed a UFO over Island Lake on the evening of February 8. He filmed the object with Super 8mm color film.



UFO Sketch, Island Lake, Mich., February 9, 1978

(Courtesy: South Lyon, Mich., Herald)

At 7:45 the following night, Tom Beauchamp, former Air Force aircraft mechanic, and others spotted an object "at least the size of three 747 jets" over Island Lake. (See sketch, above).

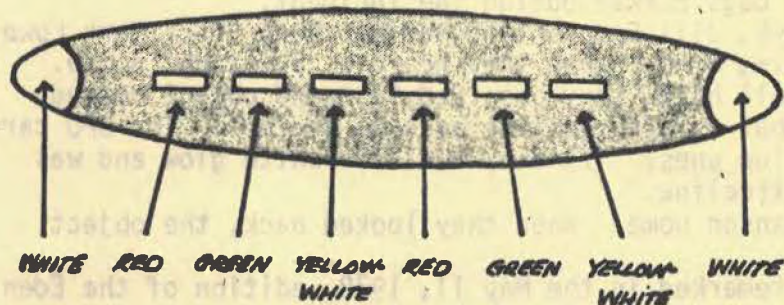
"It sure wasn't any [American] aircraft," Beauchamp opined in the February 15, 1978, edition of the Brighton, Mich., *Argus*. "There were too many lights and its shape was not of any conventional or experimental aircraft I saw in the service. It was in a boomerang shape with a great intensity of light coming from the center fuselage area."

Nearby, Evan Peelle and other witnesses saw it. Ms. Peelle described it as "a huge oval craft... with yellow-gold lights in a V-shape" that emitted "a humming noise." They also spotted other objects that "darted back and forth and moved away from each other and back again in patterns." The UFOs also "hovered, sped off at a high rate of speed, made sharp right angle turns or suddenly disappeared."

Beauchamp, Peelle and the others saw a smaller UFO approach the larger craft, and "suddenly the large one took off at a high rate of speed and went out of sight..."

About two dozen calls concerning the sightings were received by Green Oak Township and Brighton post state police during the two evenings.

It was 9 p.m., March 1. Mrs. Judi Sist and her daughter, Karen, observed two UFOs "about 200 feet above the woods" behind their home in Sterling Heights.



UFO Sketch, Sterling Heights, Mich., March 1, 1978

(Courtesy: Macomb Daily)

Mrs. Sist said "the first object was cigar-shaped, about the size of a commercial airliner, had bright white lights on either end" and a row of six multi-colored, flashing lights on the side. (See sketch, left). The second UFO "was about 15 times the size of the first."

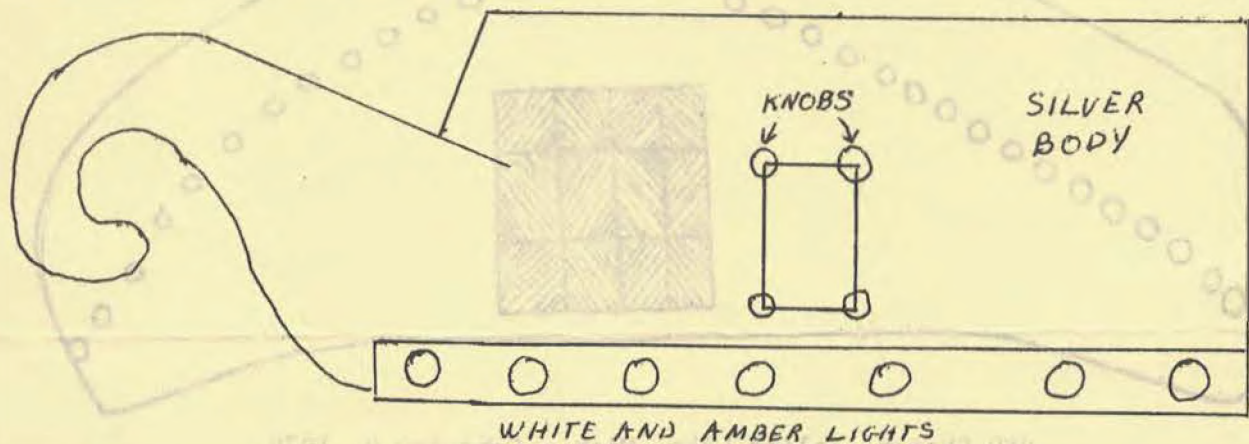
"I couldn't see any shape," Mrs. Sist said of the second object in the March 6, 1978, edition of the Mt. Clemens, Mich., *Macomb Daily*. "It just glowed a bright white with a bluish tinge. It was like a ball of light."

Karen, who was babysitting next door, said the second UFO was "saucer-shaped, with a dome on top."

"The smaller one moved northeast very smoothly until it went out of sight," Karen stated. "The larger one hovered for awhile, then seemed to just disappear and reappear in the same place, as though someone were switching a light on and off. After about 20 minutes, the large one moved northeast out of sight, too."

The neighbor children and Mrs. Sist's 11-year-old daughter, Andrea, also saw the UFOs.

Mrs. Marie Louise Schmidt was watching television in her Rockwood, Mich., home at about 11:45 p.m., April 29, when she saw a UFO as big as a "large house." (See sketch, below).



Sketch of UFO Seen by Marie Louise Schmidt, Rockwood, Mich., April 29, 1978

"I was attracted to a row of very bright lights, white and amber, across my picture window," the witness stated in a report to UFOR dated August 8, 1978. "[The object] was going very slow... and the sound was like a very low hum.... I would say it was about 20 feet high, as it was going west. As it was going by, I took a very good look at it. It was right up to the window, and it was so huge that I could only see the side of it... as it was gliding by."

Mrs. Schmidt's 14-foot high flood light was operating. Combined with the brilliance of the UFO, this light lit up the area "almost like daylight," causing the witness' eyes to "weaken" and "water a lot."

"The row of lights were on the bottom and across the back...," the witness continued. "Above the lights, the spaceship was silver... I saw a door, and, on each corner, were large knobs. The knobs were cushioned.... It was built in one piece. There were no seams or rivets [except for] the door. When I saw the tail section, I was surprised, for it was shaped like a large scroll... This design was so weird... The lights were so intense, especially the back lights. The [light] in the center was a lot larger than the one on the side..."

The UFO slowly moved up and down and from side to side. It flew over a large tree in the witness' front yard and disappeared. The tree "was budding out," but after the sighting, its leaves appeared burned and dried. Mrs. Schmidt's family suggested chopping it down, but after about two months, new leaves began to grow.

Mrs. Schmidt added that her neighbor's dogs barked during the incident.

Around 8:15 p.m., May 3, Tracy Kowalczyk, Jill Swanson and her brother, Eric, Mark Lowe, and Brett Warren were playing in Eden Prairie, Minn., when they heard a "rustling" noise. Investigating in nearby woods and over a small hill, they observed "a round object between 10 and 15 feet across, flat on the bottom, but raising up like an oval on top." The UFO carried "a ring of red lights and one or two blue ones." It "had a bluish-white glow and was hovering... above the ground and below the treeline."

The frightened witnesses ran to the Swanson home. When they looked back, the object ascended and flew east.

"I thought it was really weird," Jill remarked in the May 11, 1978, edition of the *Eden Prairie News*. "I was really scared, really shaking bad."

Paul Wagner and Peter Fairweather were on the shores of Lake Ontario, near Bronte, Ontario, Canada, at approximately 7:45 p.m., March 2, when they observed a UFO "hovering over the lake, apparently sucking up water."

The object had "an oval-shaped top of glowing white, a cone beneath it of various colors, a glowing white ball at the bottom and two flanking shapes of orange and white." After 5-10 minutes, a light plane approached, and the UFO took off "straight up into the air."

"I think it was quite close into the shore, maybe between 400 and 600 feet away," Wagner stated in the *Oakville (Ontario) Journal Record*, March 6, 1978.

On March 12, numerous witnesses observed "a mysterious circular craft touch down on one of the runways" at Congonhas Airport, Sao Paulo, Brazil, stated the March 22, 1978, edition of the New York, N.Y., *News World*. The airport radar was shut down, but "radar screens in Brasilia and in Manaus picked up unidentified signals."

The following day, thousands of witnesses reportedly saw a UFO squadron over the suburbs of Rio de Janeiro. Camp des Afonsos airfield radar screens tracked the objects. Col. Rui Guardiola, stationed at the airfield, said the strange craft "emitted yellow and blue luminous signals with the intensity of gigantic photographic 'flashes.'"

Meanwhile, hundreds of observers saw the UFOs hovering over Camari Stadium in Rio de Janeiro "during a practice session of the national Brazilian soccer team." The crew of a Pan American Airlines jet, flying near Brasilia, "reported seeing a luminous sphere." Passengers on board a Varig flight also saw the objects.

British citizens were among the observers.

Paul Lewis, Harrogate Council deputy director of resorts services, was driving from Harrogate toward his home in Orchard Close, Sharow, on the evening of January 30, when he observed a "small, circular object" at an estimated altitude of several hundred feet.

"It came over the car and hung there for about four or five seconds," Lewis remarked in the Leeds, England, *Yorkshire Post*, February 2, 1978. "Then everything turned reddish-yellow... and the car seemed to glow inside and out.... Then [the UFO] shot off like a bullet."

The witness stated "his white Rover turned the same colour as a coal fire." Neither the car engine nor the radio were affected.

"I had a tingling sensation at the time, but I think that was because I was really frightened," Lewis concluded.



UFO Filmed by Gary Colegate, Newcastle, England, March 21, 1978

(Courtesy: Sunday Sun)

Gary Colegate spotted "a bright, semi-circular light moving swiftly in the sky" over Newcastle on the evening of March 21, stated the Newcastle *Sunday Sun*, April 16, 1978. The witness first saw the UFO in the southeast. It disappeared, but returned at 8:55 p.m. The witness had his movie camera ready and "filmed its progress." (See photo, left above).

Malcolm Colegate, Gary's father, and a friend, David Park, also saw the object.

At 1:05 p.m., March 29, Mrs. M. Fry and her husband were in a parking lot in Bexleyheath, Kent, when they observed "a white blob, about three to four feet" long playing tag with a small plane.

"It looped, curved, circled over and under the cockpit, the pilot seemingly unaware of it!" Mrs. Fry stated in the *Bexleyheath Observer*, July 6, 1978. "I immediately shouted to my husband... and... the other people in the car park... My husband spotted it as it gave a final large loop and shot off towards Woolwich."

Tracey Segasby and her friend, Michaela Field, were putting away their riding horses at Camps Heath, near Lowestoft, on the evening of May 13, when they saw a UFO near the ground over some marshes along the River Waveney.

(Continued on page 8)

The next edition of *UFO Research Newsletter* will be ready for mailing around November 15, 1978.

Occupants, Possible Abduction Highlight Reports (Continued from page 7)

"We glanced across the marshes and spotted the dome-shaped object," Tracey wrote in the May 15, 1978, edition of the *Eastern Evening News*. "It had a silvery appearance with bright orange lights around it.... After about 10 seconds the orange lights changed to a pinky red and then to a dazzling white. It then began to slowly rise above the ground, hovering for about five seconds and then it landed again. When it did so the lights turned to bright orange again. Then they began to fade away. It was then that we noticed four figures coming towards us. There were two large creatures standing side by side. On either side were two small ones. They... moved in a jerky manner, at least five feet every time. The creatures then disappeared and the UFO gradually started to rise into the air and fade away. Then, after about 10 seconds, it had completely disappeared."

Tracey added that the horses were reacting violently; dogs "were howling and barking"; and cats "started running about."

On January 12, the radar system at the joint Spanish-American tracking station, Puigmajor, Majorca, Spain, reportedly tracked numerous UFOs "flying at supersonic speed," stated *La Voz de l'Interior*, Cordoba province, Argentina, January 19, 1978. A group of technicians said there was "serious" E-M interference to radio sets and an alarm system.

UN SECRETARY-GENERAL URGES AD HOC UFO COMMITTEE

United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim urged a group of scientists and others to attempt to organize an *ad hoc* UFO committee within the world body "which would then make specific recommendations to the Special Political Committee regarding the seriousness of UFOs."

The top-level recommendation came at a meeting with Waldheim on July 14 and appeared to advance the efforts of Grenada Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy to obtain "international acknowledgement of the UFO phenomenon." Attending the meeting with Gairy were Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director, Center for UFO Studies; Dr. Jacques Vallee, astronomer; Dr. Claude Poyer, head of the UFO research effort in France; Dr. David Saunders, psychologist and rebel member of the University of Colorado UFO Project; Gordon Cooper, former astronaut; Leonard Stringfield, writer/researcher; E. Lee Spiegel, film producer; and Morton Gleisner of the Special Political Committee. Spiegel is working with Hynek to produce an audio-visual presentation to be shown before the committee next month, at which time "Grenada's provisional item with respect to UFOs will likely be discussed."

"My colleagues and I feel that the time has come for official education of the public regarding UFOs," Hynek told the group. "We now recognize that, apart from its potential scientific importance, it has sociological and political significance."

Hynek and the others agreed that "the UFO phenomenon is real and... international monitoring systems should be established to study it."

CUTTY SARK SETS SAIL WITH WHOPPING \$1.8 MILLION OFFER

For those who like UFOs mixed with their scotch, consider this: the Cutty Sark scotch whiskey firm in London is offering \$1.8 million "to anyone who can produce evidence that people from other planets can travel to Earth."

"We are deadly serious about this," Russ Taylor, the company's director, stated in the June 2, 1978, edition of *The Toronto (Ontario, Canada) Sun*: "A considerable body of scientific opinion is convinced we are not alone in the universe."

Taylor added his firm will pay the huge sum to anyone who can produce a UFO that "has transported extraterrestrial beings to Earth, or an unmanned reconnaissance vehicle, a missile, or anything else from outer space."

We would greatly appreciate copies of any sighting reports or newspaper clippings you may care to send. Please include names and dates of newspapers.

Please send us your change of address.